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LETTERS

Bill to reduce use of United Nations 'espionage haven'

Anyone who is seriously concerned about both enhancing our national security and ensuring that the United Nations serves its purpose as an international forum to solve world problems should be very concerned about the number of Soviet spies currently operating out of the Soviet Mission to the United Nations in New York.

Currently, there are approximately 295 Soviet citizens there compared with only 130 U.S. citizens who serve the same function. Why do the Soviets have roughly double the number of officials that the Americans have? The answer is obvious: they use the United Nations as an espionage haven.

In the past few months, we have learned from a wave of recent spy cases that there is a serious threat posed by the huge Soviet intelligence presence in the United States.

While all of these so-called Soviet officials may not be engaged in espionage, many are grossly overqualified for their "official" work as drivers, janitors, groundskeepers, and the like.

The 40th anniversary of the United Nations provided all Americans with an opportune time to reflect upon its purpose and seriously re-evaluate the reasons for having such an enormous Soviet Mission. I have offered a legislative

solution to what I see as a serious problem there.

This legislation, H.R. 3600, would significantly reduce the number of Soviet citizens serving at the Mission to be equivalent to the number of U.S. citizens. The concept is very simple: the fewer spies there are, the fewer incidents of espionage there are.

Clearly, this bill would greatly reduce Soviet intelligence operations in our country and, at the same time, help the United Nations shake its reputation of being a sanctuary for spies.

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